Orange County Mosquito and Vector Control District

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CONTINUED WEST NILE VIRUS ACTIVITY DETECTED IN NORTH ORANGE COUNTY District to continue truck-mounted ULV treatments to reduce mosquito population

Garden Grove, CA. The Orange County Mosquito and Vector Control District (OCMVCD) has continued to detect high levels of West Nile Virus (WNV) activity in north Orange County. OCMVCD routine tests of mosquito samples indicated additional WNV positive mosquito samples found in a 4 square mile area that includes portions of the cities of Anaheim (1 Sq. Mile), Buena Park (0.3 Sq. Miles), Cypress (0.77 Sq. Miles), and Stanton (1.88 Sq. Miles). The increase of WNV positive mosquito samples indicates an increased risk for residents to become infected with WNV through a mosquito bite.

In an effort to reduce the number of mosquitoes, interrupt virus transmission, and protect the public from mosquito-borne diseases, the OCMVCD will conduct truck-mounted ultra-low volume (ULV) applications in neighborhoods where the mosquitoes were trapped. The treatment area will be from Orange Ave to Chapman Ave and Valley View Ave to Dale Street [see attached map]. The applications are scheduled for Wednesday and Thursday, September 25-26 between 10:00 p.m. and 5:00 a.m. Application dates and times may change due to weather, environmental conditions or due to other operational needs. Residents can check the spraying schedule and determine whether their homes are located within the treatment area at: https://www.ocvector.org/ground-based-adulticiding

The Orange County Mosquito and Vector Control District will continue to conduct surveillance and if laboratory results indicate a continued increase in WNV positive mosquitoes, truckmounted treatments will be scheduled for additional areas.

Residents in treatment areas will be notified prior to the treatment date with signs posted in their neighborhoods. All control products used by OCMVCD are registered by the federal and state Environmental Protection Agency for the purpose of controlling mosquitoes and to safeguard public health. The products are applied according to the label rate (less than 1 fluid oz. per acre) and are not harmful to people or pets, even if they are present during the application. The application will also not harm the finishes on cars or homes. Residents do not have to turn off air-conditioning units during the application.

Mosquito control is a shared responsibility and residents need to take an active role in removing water sources and sharing information with their neighbors to help in controlling mosquitoes.

Residents should take the following precautions to help reduce the chances of getting bitten by mosquitoes:

- Dump and drain any containers filled with water at least once a week
- Clean and scrub bird baths and pet water bowls weekly
- Dump water from potted plant saucers
- Do not transport or share plant stems rooted in water
- Drill a hole or puncture containers to eliminate standing water

To prevent mosquito bites, the District offers the following tips:

- Apply mosquito repellents to exposed skin before going outdoors; reapply as recommended
- Wear repellent containing DEET®, Picaridin, IR3535, or oil of lemon eucalyptus
- Close all unscreened doors and windows to prevent mosquitoes from entering your home or space; repair broken or damaged screens
- Wear long-sleeved shirts and long pants, and opt for lighter-colored clothing

Visit ocvector.org to learn more about what you can do to prevent mosquito breeding in and around your property.

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